

## Disasters flow cut off

SAFAKLUPA, Turkey (AP) — President Turgut Ozal pushed a button Saturday cutting the flow of the Euphrates River to Syria and Iraq. The message was to tell a Turkish engineer that he should influence conditions in the region. "God will give us the benefit of our people," Ozal said as he pushed the button at the end of a sandstone dam a stone's throw from the ancient Anatolian Gates. During the one-month drought, Syria and Iraq will get less water from the tributaries of the Euphrates, the 2,100-kilometre-long river that has been the lifeline of Mesopotamia for the past 5,000 years. International Committee of the Red Cross said it has been the lifeline of the region since the 1960s. The dam, which has been under construction since 1985, is the first of a series of dams planned to be built on the Euphrates. The dam is expected to be completed in 1995. Turkey will have a strengthened control over the waters of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers.

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# Jordan Times

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جريدة الأردنية للدراسات

## Arafat on 2nd Cairo visit this week

CAIRO (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived Saturday on his second visit to Cairo this week for talks with Egyptian leaders on Middle East peace reports. Egypt's Middle East News Agency said Arafat was greeted at Cairo international airport by Hosni Al Sayyid, head of President Hosni Mubarak's political office, and Palestinian officials. Arafat was in Cairo Jan. 9-11 and held talks with Mubarak, Foreign Minister Ezzat Abdal Meguid and other officials. The United States and Egypt have been trying to organize a dialogue between Israeli and Palestinian representatives in Cairo. But the effort received a setback this week when Washington reports spoke of difficulties delaying a meeting among the foreign ministers of Egypt, Israel and the United States to prepare for the dialogue. The ministerial meeting originally was planned for this month. After talks with Arafat Tuesday, Abdal Meguid said that adequate preparations should precede the proposed peace negotiations.

## Kaddoumi: Time on the Palestinian side

AMMAN (T.T.) — A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Saturday time was on the side of the Palestinians and not otherwise as propagated by Israel.

"Gone is the time when Israel used to gain credit for its bragging that it was an asset to the Western nations' strategy in the Middle East, trying to check the advance of communism in the region and defending oil supply routes and the Suez Canal," said Farouq Al Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's Foreign Affairs Department.

"In the light of the current international developments and the ongoing infidels in occupied Palestine, I think that time is on the side of the PLO and working against Israel," Kaddoumi said upon leaving Amman following a four-day visit to Jordan.

"The Israelis have an illusion that they can put down the opposition through their various oppressive means but the Palestinian people's uprising is bound to continue until Israel's occupation ends," Kaddoumi said in reply to reporters' questions at the airport.

The whole world, he said, "recognizes the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, but Israel persists in

its intransigent stand, and both (Israeli Trade Minister Ariel) Sharon and (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir have not yet realized the dimension of developments in the Palestinian and in the international arenas."

In reply to a question about Sharon's contention about Jordan was as the substitute homeland for the Palestinians, Kaddoumi said: "Sharon is a terrorist whose statements were condemned by various political circles, including those considered friendly to Israel."

Sharon's statements, he said, "are not more than nonsense which nobody accepts because the whole world recognises the State of Palestine on Palestinian soil."

Asked about Israel's unilateral moves to hold elections in the occupied territories, Kaddoumi said that "one has to remember what happened after the 1976 municipal elections. The result was that Israel assassinated or arrested the elected mayors of the West Bank towns."

His talk in Jordan, he said, were positive, reflecting the mutual understanding and favourable Jordanian response to the PLO's views.

Deputy Prime Minister and

Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, who saw off Kaddoumi described the Jordanian-Palestinian talks as completely frank and characterised with mutual trust. Topics on the agenda covered means of maintaining cooperation and coordination between Jordan and the PLO to ensure further positive gains for the PLO at the regional, pan-Arab and international levels, Qasem said.

The minister reiterated Jordan's total support for the PLO, which, he said, is being fully supported by the Arab Nation.

Kaddoumi's visit, Qasem added, was one more stage in the process of Jordanian-PLO coordination. The PLO moves since November 1988 "constitute positive and clear steps designed to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East."

Qasem said Jordan welcomed a Soviet initiative to mediate between Iran and Iraq, he said that Iraq always supported initiatives designed to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 398 and had been extending a hand of peace to its neighbour.

"Let us hope," he said, "that this initiative will signal the beginning of a positive start of an end to the conflict."

## 1 killed in Tripoli bombings

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

BEIRUT (AP) — Three bombs exploded in the northern port of Tripoli Saturday during the morning rush hour, killing one person and wounding 10, soon after an explosive charge went off near the Saudi Arabian embassy in Beirut.

Scattered clashes were reported between rival forces in Beirut and South Lebanon, but no casualties were reported.

Police said panic swept Tripoli's central business section when the bombs detonated at a few minutes apart between 9 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. (0700 and 0715 GMT).

Police reported frightened motorists caused major traffic snarls as they tried to flee the area in Lebanon's second largest city, 80 kilometres north of Beirut.

The bombs, each containing an estimated three kilograms of TNT, were planted on sidewalks, police reported.

None of the feuding factions in Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war claimed responsibility for the bombings.

But a police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said the attacks appeared to be aimed at undermining the Syrian military presence in Tripoli.

It has been polled by the Syrian army since 1983, when Syrian-backed dissident Palestinian groups forced Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) out of their last stronghold in Lebanon following Israel's 1982 invasion.

"All three explosions occurred 10 to 15 metres from a Syrian army checkpoint," the spokesman said.

There were similar bombing campaigns in west Beirut after Syrian troops deployed in February 1987 to end three years of anarchy by feuding militias.

Saturday's explosions shattered windows within a three-kilometre radius, leaving streets carpeted with glass shards, and damaged 14 cars, police reported.

They said the fatality from the first blast was a 65-year-old electrical tools salesman. The other casualties were passers-by.

Tripoli's 850,000 inhabitants are mainly Sunni Muslims. The city's coordination committee, which runs day-to-day administrative affairs, blamed the bombings on the forces of rebel Christian leader Michel Aoun, who seeks to force the Syrian army out of Lebanon.

"This is the way the outlaw general sees fit to carry on his so-called war of liberation," the committee declared in a statement.

The two-kilogramme bomb in Beirut exploded late Friday night under a car parked 80 metres from the abandoned Saudi Arabian embassy in the residential Manara neighbourhood of west Beirut.

The explosions set several other cars on fire, but no casualties were reported.

The embassy was closed in 1985 after it was ransacked and burned by militants.

They were protesting Saudi curbs on the number of Iranians allowed to make the annual pilgrimage to Mecca.

Aoun's mainly Christian army units and Syrian-backed militias clashed with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades before dawn across Beirut's dividing green line.

Police reported no casualties in the one-hour fire fight. But it underlined a marked increase in tension in the divided capital.

At least four people have been killed and 12 wounded in gunbattles along the demarcation line in the last week.

The violence has undermined an Arab League-brokered civil war cease-fire that took effect last September, ending six months of fierce artillery battles between Aoun's troops and the Syrians in which more than 900 people were killed.

The official news agency TASS said there were casualties in the Friday raids but gave no details.

Nagorno-Karabakh, a predominantly Armenian Christian enclave in the disputed Caucasus mountain range, has been under Azerbaijani control since 1923. Attempts to annex the enclave sparked unrest that left more than 200 dead in the past two years. The enclave is now controlled by Aoun's troops and the Syrians in which more than 900 people were killed.

The hostilities reflect a worsening political crisis triggered by Aoun's defiance of Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi's government, formed in November to try to end the war in which an estimated 150,000 people have been killed since 1975.

## No tough measures needed to stop influx of Palestinians, deputies say

shows an increase of 10,000 over the 1987 figure.

In answer to a Jordan Times question on the accuracy of these figures during a Lower House of Parliament session Saturday, Interior Minister Salem Mas'adeh could not confirm the figures given by Edwan but said: "If these figures are correct then this is a very sorrowful situation."

"I am sorry that such a high number of Palestinians would succumb to Israeli pressure... we hope that Palestinians would remain steadfast in their homeland," Mas'adeh said.

The minister added that the "plight of the Palestinians is also our plight... it is a human problem."

The Interior Ministry's department of control and inspection has been a target of strong public and parliamentary criticism since its creation immediately after Jordan's July 1988 decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank.

Deputies have been insisting on abolishing the department and minimising routine bureaucracy in crossing the bridges connecting Jordan with the occupied territories.

According to Edwan, almost 24,000 Palestinians left the territories in 1989 and the 1988 figure

incoming Palestinians.

The release of the number of Palestinians crossing into Jordan since mid-1983 by the department is seen by some deputies as an attempt to stop calls for making the crossing process easier."

According to Amman Deputy Taher Al Masri, "using the word exodus to describe the situation is aimed at defending an 'official policy' which would place more controls on the crossing of Palestinians into Jordan from the occupied territories."

"Our policies so far are lame because they excluded the military option and did not develop it hand in hand with the political option," he added.

"This exodus, even if we call it that, is a reflection of a reality in the territories which has compelled the citizens there to abandon their positions in the struggle to seek security," Amman Deputy Fahki Kawar said.

Asked if he felt that the Arab support for the Palestinian uprising was lacking Kawar said: "It is almost non-existent."

Edwan expressed his belief that this "transfer of the population is tragic," but according to parliamentarians interviewed by the Jordan Times "the tragedy lies in the Jordan Times 'the tragedy lies in our (Arab) responsibility in this situation.'"

## Iraq to match Iranian prisoner release

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq will free 50 disabled Iranian prisoners of war (PoWs) to match a similar release by Tehran, the first PoW exchange in more than a year.

Shubab said that these preconditions were included in Fahoum's initiative, which the former PNC speaker put forward three weeks ago during a Palestinian political initiative, his Fahoum's initiative was contained in a speech he made three weeks ago, "the Palestinian official said.

The short-sighted leadership which has given many concessions should reassess its position, he said. "We should not be the ones to reassess our position."

PLO officials in Tunis, however, said that such conditions were unacceptable. "Arafat has a very positive attitude towards reconciliation but he would not accept any preconditions," a PLO official said.

The demand by the dissident groups that the PLO should reconsider its strategy coincides with internal Palestinian pressures, mainly by the PFLP-GC, which immediately welcomed the initiative and said that the representatives of these groups could attend any future meeting of the PNC.

The reports gave way to speculations that Syria has finally decided to disengage itself from "internal Palestinian rivalries" and that the dissident groups have decided to rejoin the PLO party for fear of isolation.

The groups, including Saqqa, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) and Fatah-Uprising, are demanding a return to the 1964 Palestinian charter, which calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state in all of Palestine.

"We welcome their return but the gap is wide and so far we do not see any serious steps taken towards reconciliation," a PLO official said.

The PFLP-GC and Saqqa broke away in 1983 after supporting a Syrian-backed motion against Arafat's leadership of the mainstream Fatah movement. The rift was further deepened by differences over Arafat's peace moves

and since then the breakaway groups have boycotted the sessions of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

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## Differences over strategy block PLO reunification

By Lamis K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Despite recent signals of a possible return of three Damascus-based Palestinian dissident groups to the folds of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), serious differences remain over the Palestinian peace process.

According to Palestinian officials, the Syrian-backed factions, which oppose the leadership of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, are still insisting on dropping the 13-month-old Palestinian peace strategy as a basic precondition for reconciliation.

The groups, including Saqqa, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) and Fatah-Uprising, are demanding a return to the 1964 Palestinian charter, which calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state in all of Palestine.

"We welcome their return but the gap is wide and so far we do not see any serious steps taken towards reconciliation," a PLO official said.

The PFLP-GC and Saqqa broke away in 1983 after supporting a Syrian-backed motion against Arafat's leadership of the mainstream Fatah movement. The rift was further deepened by differences over Arafat's peace moves

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## Bulgarian talks reach accord on ethnic issue

SOFIA (R) — Bulgarian nationalists, Muslims and government and opposition representatives have reached an agreement aimed at defusing ethnic tension.

An 11-point document, produced after five days of talks, set out a list of proposals including the right of all Bulgarians to choose their own names and practise any religion.

"Nobody has the right to force any one to change his name, but if anyone elects to alter it of his own free will they should be guaranteed the right to do so," the document said.

It added that a special law on the right to choose names should be passed by the end of next month.

Vasil Mrachkov, vice president of the state council, told a news conference after the talks that the draft document would be finalised and submitted to parliament.

The five-day talks were hastily arranged last Sunday after tens of thousands of Bulgarians demonstrated against the Communist authorities' decision to reverse an assimilation campaign against the country's 1.5 million ethnic Turks and other Muslims.

The campaign, which prompted an exodus of more than 300,000 ethnic Turks from Bulgaria to Turkey last summer, forced ethnic Turks and other Muslims to adopt Bulgarian names and curbed their religious practices.

Opposition activists who attended the talks said the document was intended to clarify certain parts of the constitution concerning citizens' ethnic rights and allow fears in some Bulgarian

provinces that the large ethnic Turkish population would seek autonomy.

"We hope that this declaration will pacify people's emotions," said Zhelyu Zelev, leader of the Union of Democratic Forces, an umbrella body including the country's 11 main opposition groups.

"There are certain guarantees in the declaration for the regions where the people fear most insecurity and threatened."

Mincho Minchev, spokesman of the Union for the Protection of National Interests which had protested against the reversal of the assimilation campaign, told Western journalists he accepted the agreement unconditionally.

He said he believed a wave of anti-Turkish strikes and demonstrations that took place last week would end.

In an apparent attempt to reassure Bulgarians that their rights were not threatened by concessions to ethnic minorities, the document stressed that the country's sovereignty should be safeguarded, and no citizen should have the right to hoist a foreign flag.

It added that Bulgarian would remain the official language in educational institutions and public associations as well as for official documents.

"In other places of everyday communication and personal relations people can use whatever language they like," the document said.

The document also went some way towards placating nationalists who had demanded a referendum or a moratorium on the

ethnic issue by proposing that a parliamentary commission, headed by Bulgarian leader Petar Mladenov, should be formed to examine the question.

"This parliamentary commission should work out a complete programme so that lasting national policy can be carried out for a change in the constitution and present legislation," it said.

The programme should be drawn up "with broad discussion by the people."

Union of Democratic Forces spokesman Petar Beron said that while ethnic Turks were already free to use their original names in private, changing them officially would take longer.

"Until new identity cards and other documents are issued they can be used in legal matters," he told the news conference.

Although the various groups attending the talks in Sofia reached agreement on the document, some Bulgarians said they feared the consensus would not filter through to the provinces where the ethnic tension is at its highest.

"In practical terms this is neither a step forward nor a step back — it's a step to the side," one Bulgarian commented after the talks.

"If the nationalists are dissatisfied with the decision I am 90 per cent sure there will be more protests," said Vesselin Vulchev, a Bulgarian from the south eastern town of Kurtzhali who said he had been ostracised at home for his support of ethnic Turks.

"I'm not saying the situation is dangerous, but it's unpleasant," he said.

## Few government officials survive criticism by Somali party paper

MOGADISHU (R) — Somalis are queuing up to oggle headlines in Ogaal, the tong-talking tabloid of the country's ruling party, and read all about its latest swipes at the government.

The six-page weekly paper of the Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party has spent months lambasting top government officials for their shortcomings — and few of those named have survived its criticism.

People who normally show little interest in the country's tightly controlled press are suddenly becoming newspaper addicts. Every Friday morning they jostle to snap up the latest edition of Ogaal. Latecomers offer huge sums for photocopies.

Last year Ogaal blamed the central bank governor for a cash shortage and the disappearance

from circulation of new 500 shilling notes. He was fired after a few hard-hitting editorials.

The chief of police was the next to go. Ogaal then turned its guns on the cabinet — denouncing two ministers each week for alleged corruption and inefficiency.

Just as readers were beginning to wonder who there was left to attack apart from President Mohammad Siad Barre himself, Ogaal declared in an editorial last Friday that the entire government should resign "because it had failed to tackle the country's social and economic problems."

Siad Barre announced four days later that he had dissolved the government and would shortly form a new administration.

The president, who has ruled Somalia with an iron hand for the past 20 years, is widely assumed

to be the author of Ogaal's stinging attacks on members of the government.

Official sources said Commerce Minister Abdikassim Salad Hassan told a cabinet meeting he was prepared to expose the true author of Ogaal's tirades.

He then grinned broadly at the president.

Somalia's shortcomings are real enough.

The poverty-stricken country of nomadic herdsman is torn by civil war and the government is riddled with corruption.

Most Western aid donors have suspended aid to Somalia in protest at human rights violations by the government's security forces and the regular diversion of development funds into the pockets of senior officials.

## Egyptian dig finds dwarf

Giza, Egypt (R) — Experts have uncovered the bones and statue of a dwarf named Pt-N-Ankh who was the companion of Egypt's pharaoh 4,000 years ago.

The basalt figure, brought out of a sealed vault on Thursday, is about 40 centimetres high and shows him seated on a chair, his left arm across his chest.

He holds a long stick resembling an oar. His other hand, resting on his lap, holds an instrument resembling a spatula, indicating he was a high official.

Zahi Hawass, director-general of the Giza Pyramids area outside Cairo, the man who directed the dig, calls the statue "wonderful, unique."

Only one previous statue of a dwarf has been found in Giza, a scribe named Seneb, discovered in the early 1900s. The tombs were near each

other and Hawass says the diggers may now have located a burial ground of dwarfs in Giza.

Little is known about dwarfs in ancient Egypt. Hawass said some were jesters who entertained royalty. Others held official posts like Seneb the Scribe.

Hieroglyphic inscriptions said Pt-N-Ankh was "a close associate of the king in the great palace."

Pt-N-Ankh's statue was found by Mahmoud Afifi, an antiquities inspector.

Afifi told Reuters he stumbled on a six-metre tomb four months ago while removing sand from nearby burial chambers and uncovered two statues of women, now believed to be Pt-N-Ankh's wives.

Thigh bones of a dwarf were in one of the tomb's three shafts but Pt-N-Ankh's nearby sarcophagus or vault, with its fac-

inating stone figure and the inscriptions on its walls, was uncovered only last week.

"I looked through a spy hole in the sarcophagus and saw the statue of the dwarf," Afifi said.

Archaeologists said they did not know why the dwarf official was holding an oar or what it meant, or why his sarcophagus was outside his tomb, not inside it as was customary in the age.

It is the first time we find a sarcophagus in the old kingdom outside the tomb. Sarcophagi were always found inside tombs of employees," Hawass said.

The only sarcophagi we have found outside the tombs were those of royalty. This discovery is unique."

Hawass and Afifi also found clay and alabaster urns and plates, five unusual-looking sacrificial columns and pieces of wood, probably part of a small chair or bed for the dwarf.

It gave no details of what measures would be taken to face the water cut

possible scattered showers, especially in the southern region of the Kingdom. Weather will be light and variable becoming at times northeasterly moderate.

In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers. Winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 11, Aqaba 17. Humidity readings: Amman 30 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

- Dr. Khalid Khoubi ..... 826919
- Dr. Ibrahim Abu Kouta ..... 673840
- Dr. Yousef Rashed ..... 846301
- Dr. Wael Khartabil ..... 665917
- Pharmacy ..... 661912
- First Aid ..... 778336
- Emergency ..... 121
- Overseas Calls ..... 010230

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Weak and stable airiness is affecting the area; so it will be partly cloudy with

## Baghdad to send envoy to Ankara on water cut-off

BAGHDAD (AP) — The government will send a senior envoy to Ankara Sunday to seek to persuade Turkish authorities to shorten a planned month-long cut in the flow of the Euphrates River, officials reported Saturday.

Ministry of Irrigation and Agriculture officials said First Under-Secretary Abdul Sattar Salman would head a high-level delegation to the Turkish capital to discuss problems arising from cutting the Euphrates flow.

The move, the second Iraqi mission to Ankara in as many weeks, was announced as the Turks were scheduled to halve the flow to fill up the reservoir at the giant Ataturk hydroelectric dam in southeastern Anatolia province.

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"I'm not saying the situation is dangerous, but it's unpleasant," he said.

AN ISRAELI army jeep (foreground) clears a roadblock as Israeli soldiers stand in the background after troops had killed two Palestinians in the occupied West Bank last week. The roadblock was erected to make access to the village difficult. A U.N. vehicle (background right) waits to pass.

## Maghreb ministers study integration

TUNIS (R) — The foreign ministers of five Maghreb countries began talks on closer regional integration and joint negotiations with the European Community (EC) in advance of an Arab Maghreb Union summit later in the month.

The union, set up last February by Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia, hopes to transform itself into a regional common market.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Abdul Hamid Esbeh said the union is likely to contest the siting of the permanent secretariat fiercely. Algeria and Morocco are at a disadvantage because of the dispute over the Western Sahara, where

Moroccan troops are fighting Polisario guerrillas traditionally supported by Algeria.

The five heads of state have agreed to meet in Tunis from Jan. 21 to 23 to look at their foreign ministers' proposals.

But Tunisia has to postpone the summit twice because first King Hassan of Morocco and then Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said they could not make dates previously announced.

The timetabling difficulties underlined the union's vulnerability to the whims of its leaders, diplomats said.

Gulf officials say the tripartite committee — formed by leaders of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) at their annual summit Muscat last December — will try to formulate policies to cope with new trends worldwide.

The changes include the unified European market in 1992, superpower detente, and political upheavals in Eastern Europe.

The GCC, a political and economic alliance, comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Kuwait, the only GCC country with a parliamentary tradition, is in the throes of heated debate on the advantages and disadvantages of reviving its dissolved parliament following a series of vocal pro-democracy demonstrations.

The Kuwaiti government has ruled out a reinstatement of parliament, dissolved in 1968, but has said it may soon lift censorship imposed on the country's media more than three years ago and

was considering new ways of

Yousef Ben Alawi Abdullah and Kuwaiti Finance Minister Jassim Mohammad Al Khorafi would take part in the meeting, the first of its kind, GNA said.

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"The virus of democracy will spread in the Arab World, and it will enter cities and villages either peacefully or through uprising, the Sharjah-based 'Al Khaleej' said Thursday.

"Will we (Arabs) forever remain a nation with its sons and daughters prevented from practising their freedom of speech, thought, work and self-determination?" the paper asked.

Officials within the GCC countries say political changes will come but slowly and will be guided by their governments;

"No-one wants to see a repeat of what happened in Kuwait, with thousands of people fleeing. Changes will occur but in the next 10-20 years," one official said recently.

Bahrain's daily 'Al Ayam' Saturday quoted Abdullah Al Quwaiji, assistant secretary general of the GCC for financial affairs, as saying the ministers "will study a working plan towards these developments."

straw came last Tuesday when an opposition newspaper listed in detail the obscene insults Badr is alleged to have used in publicly attacking writers, scholars and politicians.

Badr's successor is very different in character.

Mohammad Abdul Halim Musa, 59, is known for his courteous, measured approach and a willingness to consider dialogue with the opposition. But he is also a firm upholder of the law.

"The opposition parties are part of the system... we must listen to other opinions," he said in remarks to reporters as he arrived at the Interior Ministry to take up his appointment.

In contrast, Badr made no distinction between the officially banned but tolerated Muslim Brotherhood and the outlawed Muslim militants who preach revolution.

"It didn't matter when he hampered impoverished provincials working underground in the tense areas of Egyptian cities and towns," said a Western diplomat.

Quoting a 9th century Islamic scholar who advocated killing one-third of the population in order to save the rest, Badr said he wanted to get rid of only one per cent of Egyptians, 500,000 people.

Columnist Mustapha Amin questioned Friday in the daily state-run Al Akhbar whether Badr and his offensive tongue

were reflective of the official view, or his personal opinion.

Badr's dismissal and replacement by another career policeman was announced by presidential decree Friday, taking many political analysts by surprise.

"Clipping Zaki Badr's wings is a public relations triumph for Mubarak," said one diplomat. "He will take the credit from an intelligence that detected Badr's methods and manners."

During his eight-year rule, 61-year-old Mubarak has tried to maintain social equilibrium by balancing opposing power groups, cutting them down to size when they threatened to predominate.

Last April he sacked Mohammad Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, the defence minister and second most powerful man in Egypt.

The move was seen then by some analysts as keeping the military establishment in check.

Badr singled out Islamic fundamentalists for particular abuse, calling them pigs and dogs.

For many — and possibly Mubarak himself — the final

market prices

## Ministry of Information studies plans to revamp role, structure

By Ghader Taha  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In line with the changes in the political climate in Jordan, the Ministry of Information, once the main guiding light for information dissemination in the Kingdom, is considering plans to revamp itself and modify its role, according to Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin.

"So far this is a very internal study but we are debating ways to change the nature of the ministry but it is not going to be abolished as some reports suggested," Izzeddin told the Jordan Times Saturday.

Some of the ideas which are under consideration include ways to give the government-controlled Jordan television and radio more autonomy and make the official news agency, Petra, more independent, according to the minister.

"Television is already autonomous but we are thinking of changing it from a government to a national station," he said. But he could not give details on exactly how that would translate in practical terms since the study "is very much in its preliminary stages."

According to a report carried by Radio Monte Carlo, the ministry is considering a plan to separate itself from radio and television, which will be directly administered and operated by a board of directors. The radio said the proposed changes were expected to be brought into effect with

what it described as "an expected reshuffle" of the government.

The minister expressed hope that Petra, the only source of official information until now, would become "similar to an international news agency," which would report on events as it sees fit, in order to transform Petra into "a more professional organization."

The ministry intends to consult the three local dailies for advice and proposals, Izzeddin said.

The minister confirmed that suggestions had been made that Petra be turned into a shareholding company but said: "This is very premature at this point." He declined from giving a specified time-frame for the expected changes.

Petra usually reports government decisions, official meetings and issues handled on government level in terse statements without elaboration or explanation. On many instances, its coverage of official events are more of a ceremonial nature than information.

The agency has not been known to cover sensitive issues such as the economic crisis, political scandals or other controversial topics. But first indications that the agency might be changing its philosophy came during the three-day Lower House of Parliament session on the government programme last month when it carried full term of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, which took power in April this year and

opened also seemed to have invaded Jordan Television, when it screened parts of deputy addresses which took the government to task over economic and political issues.

The ministry itself is planning to redefine its function, Izzeddin said Saturday. "The ministry has gone through dramatic changes in the last few months in line with the liberalisation process in the country," he said. "Now the press is free; we no longer issue the guidelines."

The ministry will continue to give regular briefing to journalists but "they can use it or not use it as they deem fit," Izzeddin said. The same applies for reports carried by Petra, and "we do not insist that the papers carry our reports," he said.

During the past era of restrictive journalism which started with the government assuming control of the three major newspaper establishments in the Kingdom, any information emanating from the Ministry of Information was expected to be treated as, in the words of an official, "gospel" and be carried with no elaboration or explanation of the issue involved.

Local editors recall dozens of occasions when they were told to use "only the Petra version" of the story. However, the system took a distinct turn after the interim government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, which took power in April this year and

Ibrahim Izzeddin

maintained a more-or-less laissez-faire approach to the newspapers.

The ministry used to hold regular meetings to instruct the local press about what was permissible for publication and what was not and had watchdogs at all the three papers until early last month when the Badran government reversed the August 1988 decision and returned the control of the newspapers to its former managers. However, the government still retains controlling interest in the papers.

Izzeddin said that there was no longer any censorship of the press by the Ministry of Information and newspapers can "print what they want." But, foreign publications entering Jordan will be scrutinised, he said.

Conceding that ministries of information usually exist in countries which find a need to "control" information, the minister said: "Yes, it is true that they exist in developing countries and not in developed ones. In our case it is a title but the role has changed."

## Heated debate over disengagement delays decision on ministry abolition

AMMAN (J.T.) — A decision by the Lower House of Parliament's Legal Committee to approve a 1988 law which abolished the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs is parliamentary with a hereditary monarchy.

Mujalli said: "Since the people on both banks have never been separated and since Parliament decided in 1980 to reaffirm the historic fact, then there can be no power which can abrogate such a decision."

"Unity of Jordan's two banks is a national necessity and is more needed now in the course of liberating the occupied territories," Mujalli said. "Through unity we are stronger in the process of liberation and since unity requires removal of all elements that tend to divide the united people and since we are all for national unity I here declare my strong opposition to the government's decision to cancel the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs."

He said the first article of the Constitution states that the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is an independent united and inseparable Kingdom with its people living on both banks of the River Jordan as one unit.

The text of the first article of the constitution is as follows: "The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is an independent sovereign Arab state. It is indivisible and

inalienable and no part of it may be ceded. The people of Jordan form a part of the Arab Nation, and its system of government is parliamentary with a hereditary monarchy."

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missed students who were studying on scholarships, stopping the process of merging the Irbid Community College for girls with the mixed community college at Huwara, issuing health insurance cards for needy workers, and the appointment of a governor for the Central Bank of Jordan who would be decided on by the Lower House of Parliament.

Other proposals included the opening of a government hospital at Ruseifa, providing homes for teachers in remote areas like Maan and Aqaba and paying government employees salaries on weekly basis.

The prime minister was asked to comment on an incident in which a man was killed near the Jordanian-Syrian border and said that the man, Walid Hassan Samrin, was killed during an attempt to infiltrate into Jordanian territory through illegitimate means.

The House endorsed a law cancelling the Amman Development Corporation.

### Other issues

Deputies discussed several other issues and some put forward a number of proposals calling for the Arabisation of university education, returning dis-

missed students who were studying on scholarships, stopping the process of merging the Irbid Community College for girls with the mixed community college at Huwara, issuing health insurance cards for needy workers, and the appointment of a governor for the Central Bank of Jordan who would be decided on by the Lower House of Parliament.

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The House Financial Committee adopted a series of measures designed to encourage public involvement in the process of introducing amendments to laws of financial nature.

At the end of the session, the committee issued a statement appealing to intellectuals, scholars and university professors concerned with financial issues to come forward with ideas and proposals on ways to handle issues on the committee's agenda.

The statement said that the committee would soon issue a public statement summing up its deliberations on the proposed amendments to the Income Tax Law.

## ACC begins talks on policy coordination

BAGHDAD (AP) — Senior officials from Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen began talks Saturday on coordinating their countries' foreign policies.

Helmi Nammur, secretary-general of the Arab Cooperation Council, said the officials will discuss foreign policy issues ahead of the meeting of heads of government set for Tuesday.

Issues will top the agenda are regional developments including the situation in Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq peace, Nammur said.

The diplomats will lay down recommendations for their foreign ministers to endorse

before proposing them to the meeting of the heads of government.

The ACC was formed in February last year and its leaders said it has no political ambitions beyond seeking to unify the four countries' standpoints on various issues.

Nammur said the government leaders will review the work of several committees and that accords have been drafted on how to achieve economic integration between the four countries.

The Egyptian economics professor said the group is still moving carefully on integration and needs more time and

that would have laid the groundwork for the four countries to abolish customs duties.

Instead, they agreed to give their partners limited preferential treatment in imports of certain goods.

Arab diplomats said Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen will express support for President Saddam Hussein's latest peace move aimed at breaking the deadlock in the peace talks with Iran.

Egypt, a staunch supporter of Iraq during the war, has restored its diplomatic ties with Syria which supported Iran. Iraq has not commented on the Egyptian move.

## Million children return to school

AMMAN (J.T.) — More than one million children returned to school Saturday at the start of the second term of the 1989-1990 school year following a three-week winter recess.

A statement by the Ministry of Education said that a total of 1,028,164 male and female students at all levels had resumed studies at government and private schools as well as schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

The schools will have a two-

week spring holiday in April before the third term which ends by mid-June.

The statement said that the students receive education at the hand of 48,366 teachers, of whom 1928 are nursery teachers at various towns in the country.

The minister of education said here last November that the ministry this year embarked on a JD 100 million plan for the development of the Kingdom's education sector. The plan, he

said, affects teachers, students, school curricula and buildings.

Governorate to help dispose of redundant buildings and the existing two-shift schools.

The ministry said that several schools complete with their facilities, utilities, laboratories and workshops built at a total cost of more than JD 700,000 were completed.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education announced Saturday that it had received a number of school buildings constructed in the past year with the Maan Governorate.

## Azeris seize buildings

(Continued from page 1)

Moscow's control, then returned to Azerbaijan under supervision of a parliamentary commission.

Armenians began protesting again, and Azerbaijan renewed a rail blockade of Armenia last week in a campaign to retain control of the enclave. Fuel and food are running dangerously low in Armenia, which receives most of its supplies through Azerbaijan.

"The people are furious because the central authorities are not paying adequate attention to events," said Eduard Shakh-Nazaryan, an editor at the state-run Armenian agency.

"This will lead to unpredictable consequences if it continues," he said in a telephone interview from Yerevan. "I mean, military conflict between us if they continue like this."

TASS reported Friday that an interior Ministry officer on assignment to help maintain order in the region, was shot to death apparently by an Azerbaijani policeman in the Azerbaijani-populated village of Akhulju, TASS gave no other details.

The report did not say when the first batch of Soviet visitors was expected in Iran. But Tehran Radio, also monitored in Nicosia, said that Velyayati's trip was undertaken "in light of recent developments in Soviet Azerbaijan, and following protests by Muslims there demanding easier travel between the two neighbouring countries."

## Romania elections

(Continued from page 1)

front them abolished the death penalty and said members of the security forces convicted by military tribunals would be sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

The dictator fired Mazzli as ambassador to the United Nations early last year after preventing him from presenting a human rights report critical of Romania to the world body.

In the western Transylvanian town of Timisara, where protests in mid-December sparked the uprising, young protesters also gathered outside local NSF headquarters Friday to protest at the credentials of some front members.

Local NSF leader Lorin Fortuna resigned just before the demonstration and the army commander agreed to run the area until new elections were held for the front committee within a week, the official Rompres news

agency reported.

A leading Bucharest newspaper, Romania Libera, called Saturday for the sacking of Vice-President Dumitru Mazzli for his past associations with Ceausescu.

The dictator fired Mazzli as ambassador to the United Nations early last year after preventing him from presenting a human rights report critical of Romania to the world body.

But the newspaper questioned his credentials as an anti-Ceausescu dissident, saying he had been a colonel in the hated secret police. It also accused him of whipping up demonstrators with anti-Communist chants at the Friday protest outside NSF headquarters.

Another leading front member and dissident who has also come under public criticism, Silvin Bratu, was in the newspaper Adevărul Saturday that Romania needed democracy to enter the technological era.

Modrow

(Continued from page 1)

Hilberg agreed the new opposition groups and parties displayed "a certain inexperience" but this was not the same as incompetence.

"In any case we couldn't do a worse job than the Communists," he said to loud applause from the 400 delegates at an East Berlin congress hall.

The SDP would not form a coalition with the Communists after free elections May 6, he added.

The SDP has 32,000 members

and is one of the opposition groups participating in weekly talks with the government parties.

Others, including the Centrist Democratic Awakening Party,

have also called for an election alliance of all opposition forces

but some conservative groups

## The Star

Next Thursday and every Thursday read

Jordan's political, economic & cultural weekly newsmagazine

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## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

**EXHIBITION**

\* An exhibition entitled "They chose 38 poets" at the French Cultural Centre.

**LECTURE**

\* A lecture by Professor Nabil Khairy on "the Nabatae civilisation and the 1981 Petra excavations" at the British Council — 6:30 p.m.

**FLIM**

\* A Soviet film entitled "Paratroopers" at the Soviet Cultural Centre — 5:30 p.m.

## IPA plans enhanced training programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Institute of Public Administration (IPA) will begin a wide scope training and seminar programme starting next Saturday to improve the skill and performance of government employees in various public administration sectors in the country, according to IPA Director-General Abdulla Ulayyan.

The programme, which has been endorsed by the IPA board of directors, provides for short- and medium-term training courses to employees at different levels and is intended to benefit all departments, Ulayyan said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Courses ranging from performance evaluation and report preparations, supervision of work by

other employees, correspondence for government offices, dealing with the public, cooperation among various units of a government department and office accounting will be given the new year 1990, Ulayyan added.

He said seminars and symposiums for government employees on public administration and studies and research work will also be organised.

He said that the Kingdom's agreement, signed with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), would be implemented and the IPA, in cooperation with the Civil Service Commission, would try to maximise its benefit from the agreement and available funds to carry out the training courses in the Kingdom.

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation, established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors: MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Editor-in-Chief: DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan. Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366. Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO. Facsimile: 661242.

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

### How to stop the exodus

THE growing anxiety over the news that more and more Palestinians are leaving the West Bank and Gaza Strip and while less and less are returning is a legitimate concern that needs to be addressed before the problem develops into a crisis. There is no true Arab nationalist who would want to see the beginning of a Palestinian exodus from the occupied territories to the neighbouring Arab countries or, worse still, to foreign countries. Yet the solution of such an alarming situation does not lie in locking the doors and windows on the Palestinian people as some commentators have innocently suggested. Rather, the panacea can only be found in positive and affirmative Arab action. The Arabs should translate their verbal support to the Palestinian intifada and their distant clapping and remote control glorification of the uprising into deeds.

There is no doubt that the intifada is causing hardships to the Palestinian people, and unless some of these difficulties — especially their material dimension — are addressed and rectified by a genuine Arab rescue plan, there will always be fear that some of the Palestinian people most severely affected would opt to leave their homeland. Of course the Palestinian people should be exhorted to remain steadfast in their country and continue to wage their glorious intifada, but words of encouragement need to be buttressed by actions that the affected people can feel and count on. Once this aspect of the issue is properly addressed and rectified, one may start addressing the other outstanding issues that have a bearing on the whole issue.

There must not be any fear to debate every matter in order to stop any Palestinian exodus no matter how minuscule it is at this stage. The PLO should be drawn into this deliberation which could include discussing the various aspects of the intifada with a view to weed out some of them if such a course would put an end to the ominous exodus from the occupied territories. Maintaining a robust economy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip through massive Arab aid would lend support to the noble objective of keeping the people firm and strong where they belong and should belong. And since the intifada is developing into a drawn-out struggle that is testing the will and determination of each side, the tactics of the intifada need to be periodically reexamined while maintaining and honouring its strategy. But whatever the decision and verdict on how to stop the haemorrhage from the occupied territories are, they must not ever be by way of locking up the Palestinian people by bureaucratic or forceful means. There must be more ingenious ways available.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Saturday welcomed the Soviet Union's mediation bid between Iran and Iraq to reach a comprehensive settlement to the Gulf conflict. The paper said that Moscow's mediation bid assumes a great importance especially as it was welcomed by Baghdad and Tehran, which means that the leaderships in both countries are convinced that the present stalemate should not be allowed to continue for ever. Now is the time to reach a lasting and comprehensive settlement and peace which will be supported by the world community at large, said the paper. It should be noted however, that the Soviet bid followed President Saddam Hussein's latest offer to Iran for peace, and it should be emphasised also that it is Iraq which has been calling for peace and extending its peaceful hand to Iran despite the fact that it came out victorious from the eight-year long war, the paper pointed out. Iraq has been patient and at the same time striving to implement UN Security Council Resolution 398, while Iran has been disregarding peace offers from Baghdad and peace mediation by various nations and world organisations, the paper added.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily criticises the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran for taking measures, which he claims, are detrimental to the Jordanian farmers. Fadi Al Fawaz says that the government has allowed the fruits and vegetables from the occupied territories to flood the local markets in view of the lack of sufficient supplies, but has not taken into consideration the interests of the local farmers. He says that the government's decision was also politically oriented to show support for the Palestinian farmers and their steadfastness against Israeli rule. Of course, the local consumers are happy to buy their needs at reduced prices but the farmers are to bear the brunt and to pay the price, he adds. Local farmers have the right to know the government's policies in advance and to take precautionary measures, the writer suggests. He says that the government should also control the goods coming from the West Bank since Israel brags about its continued success in marketing its products in the Arab World through the open bridges. The writer suggests that if the Kingdom is to accept West Bank crops it should be able to market its cement and fertiliser west of the river.

Al Dustour on Saturday tackled the question of elections in the occupied Arab territories, criticising Israeli leaders' call for organising the elections on a unilateral basis without cooperation from the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The paper said that these ideas reflect a real crisis in Israel and also Israel's failure so far to put an end to the Palestinian uprising. The paper also called attention to Israel's attempts to blackmail the current US-Egyptian-Israeli contacts and said that by its manoeuvres, Israel is hoping to stall for time and destroy all chances for holding peace talks directly with the Palestinian people. The paper at the same time, criticised the United States for not only being a true ally to an aggressor country, but also for failing to take a firm stand with regard to Israel's manoeuvres and to squarely put the blame on the Zionist leaders. The paper said that Israel is clearly trying to escape from the dilemma by trying to divert attention from the real issue of occupation and is not helping the cause of peace by ignoring the status of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. A return to old games and manoeuvres on the part of the Israeli rulers, said the paper, cannot put an end to the intifada; and the despair which now characterises the Israeli political leaders will only be confronted by further determination by the Palestinian people to regain their rights and their homeland.

### Sunday's Economic Pulse

## What if cost replaced interest?

DURING the three-day parliamentary debate over confidence in the new government, the Islamic bloc put forward conditions for granting confidence. One of these conditions was to abolish interest charged to borrowers from the Housing Corporation and the Agricultural Credit Corporation. In his response, the prime minister told Parliament that the two specialised credit institutions would be instructed to recover the cost only without interest. The answer was assumed to be satisfactory, and the vote of confidence was secured.

Let us assume that the demand and the response over the interest were for real and not mere rhetoric, and that the government decided to instruct the two corporations accordingly — although such instructions could not be made under the current laws — what then would be the results of such an action?

I say that the results would be negative. First on the corporations themselves, second on the current beneficiaries, and third on the future potential beneficiaries and would-be clients of the two institutions. The concerned Islamic deputies are the first to realise the difficulty of introducing a no-interest concept into one part of an integrated free economic system. Examples of failures are in abundance in Egypt, Kuwait, and Jordan, where

millions were lost in the experiment.

The Housing Corporation currently charges five per cent per annum, which is lower than the financial and administrative cost. This is evident by the huge deficit in its balance sheet and its need for continuous injection of funds from the government to keep it afloat. Therefore, the present beneficiaries of the Housing Corporation are not interested in the cost concept, simply because they pay less. They are better off paying a simple interest of five per cent, than paying the actual cost, let alone profits.

On the other hand, public credit corporations do not have shareholders nor do they pay dividends. Their surpluses, if any, are used to expand their services and recycle the funds to more beneficiaries. Thus the low interest collected from farmers is being recycled back to them. If we insist that credit corporations should operate at loss, the first to suffer would be the groups that those corporations were meant to aid, namely limited income families as far as the Housing Corporation is concerned, and farmers as far as the Agricultural Credit Corporation is concerned.

It may be argued that public sector corporations do not care

about profits, because they can always look to the government for financing. But the government decided, under the circumstances, that it cannot continue subsidising these corporations, and that they should become self-sufficient. The Treasury itself suffers from the deficit and wants to see public sector units operate efficiently and economically to cover their running cost and grow.

I believe that both the condition submitted by the Islamic block deputies and the answer offered by the prime minister were not based on economic calculation of the results. The deputies acted out of principle and the prime minister answered out of good will.

Before principles and good intentions are translated into action, someone has to come up with practical, and economically sound formulas which would guarantee the recovery by the credit corporations of their capital, in real not nominal terms, together with their actual costs. Such formulas should be applied on *future* transactions only, not on current contracts.

Finally it may be useful to point out that the real interest collected by the specialised credit institutions is negative, because it is lower than the rate of inflation. It is less than what is needed to compensate for the depreciation of the paper money.

## Euphoria over possible German unity gives way to anxiety

By Richard Murphy  
Reuter

BONN — When the Berlin Wall was opened amid joyful and emotional scenes last November, it seemed here that anything was possible — even the rapid re-emergence of a united Germany.

Two months later, the euphoria is evaporating as West Germans look at the political and economic problems facing their neighbour.

In West Germany, whose constitution is committed to unity after more than four decades of German division, the emotion-laden issue has transformed the political landscape.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) will make unity

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) will make unity the key issue in their campaign for elections in December.

"1990 will be a year of destiny for us Germans," CDU general secretary Volker Rühe said in a strongly nationalistic new year message to party officials. "For us Germans the question... of the state unity of our fatherland is on the agenda."

Egon Bahr, foreign affairs expert for the opposition Social Democrats (SPD), said: "This is something we have dreamed about for decades and now the situation is here."

Behind the rhetoric, concern is growing about the scale of the problems overshadowing relations

between the two states that emerged from the rubble of Western and Soviet occupation zones after Germany's defeat in World War II.

West Germans are starting to realise just how daunting East Germany's economic problems are and Kohl is still working hard to try to convince Bonn's allies and neighbours that a united Germany would not destabilise Europe.

In East Germany, the Communists oppose unification but thousands of people see it as the only hope for their battered economy. Demonstrators chant "Germany one fatherland" and nearly 1,800 people a day are still moving to the West.

Kohl stands by the vision of a united "fatherland" which he unveiled in a 10-point unity programme in November.

He proposed joint government commissions and wide-ranging contacts, arguing that close institutional ties could lead painlessly to unification some time in the future.

The unprecedented scale of the influx of East Germans last year is prompting West Germans to ask some uncomfortable questions about their open-door policy.

A record 343,854 East Germans settled here in 1989, almost nine times as many as in 1988, along with 377,055 ethnic Germans from the Soviet Union and

other Eastern European countries. In the first eight days of 1990, 14,226 East Germans arrived.

Oskar Lafontaine, deputy SPD leader and the party's likely candidate for chancellor in the December elections, said Bonn should consider curbing welfare benefits for East Germans to encourage them to stay at home.

His views, initially greeted with protests, appear to be gaining ground. The government is looking at ways of curbing abuse of the social security system by East Germans and limiting the health care benefits of temporary visitors.

The PSD, which for many years preferred to play down the "German question," now has a unity programme similar to Kohl's. It envisages step-by-step cooperation leading to a confederation in which both states continue to exist but concede some sovereignty to a new supranational body.

The SPD says NATO and the Warsaw Pact will first have to be dismantled as part of a new "European peace order."

"As long as the two alliances exist, there can be no state unity," Egon Bahr said.

The possibility of unity has also encouraged a new national self-assuredness among mainstream politicians.

"We do not need any assist from abroad for confederative steps," the CDU's Rühe said last month.



The German Reunification

Deputy SPD leader Egon Rühe and France Daeniker said West Germans should try to curb the rights of the three Western allied powers — the United States, Britain and France — and "if the two German chancellors want to get hitched together, the three Western powers should not be able to stop them," she said.

## 1980s showed final victories as rare as final defeats

By Konrad Adam

FOR over a generation there has not been a year that was fuller of moving events. No-one who cannot remember the onset of the cold war can have experienced anything like it.

It is not just that changes, uprisings, revolutions have followed each other in unprecedentedly swift succession; they have also taken place where they would least have been expected after 40 years of status quo: in the heart of Europe.

The final months of a year that began with recollections of the momentous storming of the Bastille were marked by a number of revolutions here and now, revolutions the results and consequences of which cannot yet be foreseen. The year just ended marks the end of a decade spanned by an unusually wide range of events, starting on a note of gloom.

Between Christmas 1979 and New Year 1980 Soviet troops invaded Afghanistan. They allegedly came in response to an appeal for fraternal assistance. Their arrival coincided with the fall of the old puppet government and the appointment of its successor.

Sending in the troops has often worked, but on this occasion success was elusive. The war the Russians waged on the Afghan resistance led to both military and diplomatic losses, the latter weighing much more heavily.

When an overwhelming majority in the U.N. General Assembly called for an immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan it was clear that Moscow had isolated itself internationally.

Yet eight years were to elapse before the Russians left. Mikhail Gorbachev, who had come to power in Moscow in 1985, realised that the Soviet Union had overextended its power and was making sacrifices with no prospect of corresponding gains.

What was new was the readiness to act in accordance with this realisation. When the commanding officer of Soviet forces in Afghanistan was the last to leave the country, in spring 1989, he was hailed as a hero, a hero of the troops still flying.

The Soviet withdrawal marked more than the failure of a military adventure. The Red Army was not just the armed wing of a

world power; it also stood for the victory of an idea, vouchsafed the success of a plan for revolution, salvation and saw itself as an auxiliary of world history, the laws of which it knew and enforced.

So-called revolutionary parties have of late unmistakably taken on the appearance of security forces that are much more intensively concerned with maintaining power than with gaining it.

Despite the familiar slogans about the heroic struggle of the oppressed masses under the victorious banner of the international proletariat, maintaining rather than changing existing conditions was their overriding objective.

It has been quoted so often that the conservative features that were characteristic of Marxist practice from the outset tended to be forgotten. They were first apparent shortly after the Russian Revolution, the first acid test of Soviet reality.

The final months of a year that began with recollections of the momentous storming of the Bastille were marked by a number of revolutions here and now, revolutions the results and consequences of which cannot yet be foreseen. The year just ended marks the end of a decade spanned by an unusually wide range of events, starting on a note of gloom.

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and never so seriously that consequences might be feared.

President Mitterrand kept up the TV speeches in which he called for a revision of Yalta for only as long as it seemed safe to assume that everything would, in the final analysis, stay as it was — until, that is, Gorbachev came to power in 1985.

He then began to talk like all the others who wanted things to stay as they were. A quote from a Warsaw newspaper reflects what used to be widespread feeling.

"We had grown used to the status quo," wrote *Zycie Warszawy*, "it was convenient for us all. Any questions were deferred until an indefinite future." The indefinite future seems now to have arrived.

The status quo emerged as the dogma of post-war European politics to a degree comparable only with the decades that followed the Congress of Vienna.

But even this dogma aged with the years. Whereas time had stood still at the most unpropitious moment in Europe, it moved on as a matter of course in other parts of the world.

Reference to the status quo seemed threadbare because, as a concept, and assuming it to stand for more than immobilism, it is not clear-cut. This is aptly illustrated by a brief exchange between Stalin and Truman at the Potsdam conference.

When Churchill asked what "Germany" meant, whether it was to be understood in its war sense and if not, how else, Stalin's answer was clear. "Germany," he said, "is what became of it after the war." There was no other Germany; it was "as it is in 1945."

Truman persisted and the Big Three eventually agreed that their talks were to be based on Germany in its 1937 borders, "but only as a working hypothesis to make our work easier," as Stalin was quick to add. His words made it clear that little had been gained by the compromise. It all depends on the status quo deadline and what you hope to achieve by it.

Extending from a polyvalent past to an indefinite future, the vague concept of a status quo only seemingly applies to the present. Much the same is true of the other catchword, stability. It is of little value as a political objective because change has its good points.

alibi for inactivity, then people long for change.

The future, history, the German Question — all at once everything that previously seemed static and again, to be defined, determined or hopeless is on the move and an open question again.

We are reminded that eternal laws and irrevocable decisions were always proclaimed with a specific intention in mind and that final victories are as infrequent as final defeats — Franklin D. Roosevelt, *Der Untergang der Welt*.

Events in recent months have majestically reminded us that politics must acknowledge the fundamental truth of what Max

Born describes as a law of nature: that stability and life are, in the long term, irreconcilable.

Nothing was more prejudicial to stability than what people in Prague and Budapest, in Leipzig, Dresden and Berlin demanded and did. Yet nothing has been felt to

## Tibet looks to the sun for energy

By Li Hui

Energy-starved Tibet is turning to its richest potential power source — the sun. With little oil or coal, but with as much sunshine as Saudi Arabia or the Sahara, this region on the roof of the world is looking to the sun to solve its problems.

With an average altitude of over 4,000 metres above sea-level, Tibet gets between 2,500 and 3,400 hours of sunshine per year. And Lhasa, the regional capital, is called "Solar City" as it gets an incredible 3,000 hours of annual sunshine. The region's annual radiation averages 176 kcal per square centimetre, rising to 185.9 kcal for Lhasa itself.

Tibet has considerable hydroelectric potential, but construction of generating plants is expensive, and seasonal variations affect output. There is less water in winter. And the few existing power plants can hardly supply electricity to herdsmen's homes scattered in the vast pastoral areas. So the development of a more feasible alternative such as solar energy is urgent.

"Only in the last 30 years has it become possible to harness solar energy scientifically," said Chen Zhengrong, director of the Tibet Solar Energy Research Institute.

But Tibetans, he said, had been using solar energy since ancient times, albeit in simple ways, and based on the experience of generations.

The famous Sunlight Hall, bedrooms of the 14th Dalai Lama, was built 300 years ago in the Potala Palace. Large windows face south to let in more sunlight. The window sills are only 40 centimetres above the ground. There are no eaves, so as to let in as much sunlight as possible. As a result, more than half of the hall is warmed by the sun in winter.

Ordinary people, unable to afford that level of luxury, simply painted their window-frames black to absorb more heat from the sun. This practice is still popular in Tibet.

Scientific use of solar energy began from necessity. Because of the low temperature on the plateau, it was impossible to grow such vegetables as eggplant and tomatoes. People in Tibet relied on dried vegetables from China's other regions. In 1956, an all-glass greenhouse of 100 square metres was built along the Qinghai-Tibet highway to provide a road maintenance crew with fresh vegetables. The experiment proved successful and for the first time Tibetans tasted the fruits of scientific research into solar energy.

Greenhouses became popular in the 1970s for their economic benefits. Statistics show that the cost of building one can be recouped in two years with an annual output of 225 tons of vegetables per hectare. By the end of 1980, 200,000 square metres of greenhouse had been built in Tibet.

Such successes encouraged people to study wider applications for solar energy. Research groups were organized, and soon the first solar bathroom was built in Lhasa. Consisting simply of a bronze tube, a steel plate and two gasoline barrels, this solar water heating system made it possible for city dwellers to have a relaxing bath after the day's work. Hitherto the only bathing facility for most Tibetans are the rivers, which defy access in most time of the year since the water is icy cold.

Further research was halted when the Cultural Revolution began in 1966. But Tibetans remembered what had been achieved. So when the world energy crisis occurred in the early 1970s and intensified Tibet's need for energy, solar research was quickly revived. A number of solar devices were made, including solar boilers, solar cooking stoves and solar PV cells.

The solar boiler first benefited Tibet's urban residents. In winter when electricity becomes extremely scarce in the major cities, local residents were reluctant to use their limited supply of gas to boil drinking water. The problem was easily solved by the solar boiler which can boil 10 pounds of water in 40 minutes.

The solar cooking stove has come into its own in pastoral and agricultural areas. In Tibet's

western Ali Prefecture, herdsmen had used yak and sheep manure as fuel to cook. Farmers, however, had to buy manure from the herdsmen or chop down ever scarce trees that had taken 200 to 300 years to grow.

"The cooking stove makes our life easier," said a village headman in Tullungtching County, 25 kilometres west of Lhasa. The villagers, he said, use the stove unless it rains or becomes cloudy.

No one has so far been burnt or scalded, but burnt rice is common for the new users. People learn to adjust the focal point of the stove, where the heat is concentrated, only after they come to know the product better.

Newly designed solar cells are coming into use in herdsmen's homes. These cells provide power for lighting, thus replacing butter which used to serve farmers as a light source. A solar cell actually stores solar energy. It has also a function in TV relay services. Most cells come from China's southern Yunnan province, as Tibet cannot yet produce them.

"We focus on the systematic study of solar energy, rather than on production," said Chen Zhengrong of the Tibet Solar Energy Research Institute. "We are more interested in looking for solar products that can heat fit Tibet's special conditions," he explained.

The director takes as an example the windows of a solar re-

idential building. The amount of the heat a room can absorb through the windows, he said, depends on the quality and area of the glass as well as the number of glass layers. When there is sunlight, Chen said, the larger the windows, the more heat the room gets. Whereas when there is no sunshine such large windows cool a room. "What we try to do," Chen said, "is to find out what kind of glass we will have to use."

Solar energy is also used in industry, such as in the drying of Tibet's traditional medicinal herbs and leather. The herbs used to be spread out in the open to dry and were often ruined by wind and sand. Leather was similarly affected. Nowadays herbs and leather are dried more quickly and more cleanly inside solar buildings.

Solar energy research is financed by the state and the Tibet regional government. Two new energy research groups have been sent to Tibet by the state, and other provinces have given financial support also. A 100,000 yuan (about \$27,000) fund, allocated by the regional government in 1982 and 1983, according to Tsarong Dorje, deputy director of the regional industry and power department, was used in building greenhouses and solar bath-

rooms. With 7,300 solar cooking stoves, 15,500 square metres of solar boilers and 20,000 kilowatts of solar PV cells in use now, solar

energy saves about 20,000 tons of coal each year in Tibet. The 80,000 square metres of solar residential buildings account for half of China's total.

"But at first, local Tibetans, especially herdsmen and farmers, were not ready to accept the new energy appliances," Chen recalled. Some people feared that solar-boiled water might be poisonous. Others worried that some day the sun might be totally used up. But gradually people

were convinced by the efficiency of solar energy and the new products have a ready market.

Department stores in Tibet complain of a shortage of solar products. "We sold our 1,200 solar cooking stoves within a few days in May," said Wu Ming, general manager of the solar products shop. "There seem to be endless requests for the products and I hope more will come," Wu said.

Help is on the way. An

\$870,000 project for China's northwestern Gansu province, funded by the United Nations, will also benefit Tibet. Holland is providing \$180,000 to assist Tibet's energy planning.

"We have a long way to go," said Chen Zhengrong. "What we have achieved is just a beginning." In the next several years, Chen said, solar energy will be used more extensively, even in street lamps and in motor vehicles — China features.

## Artificial heart developers concentrate on electric versions

By A.J. Hostetter  
The Associated Press

date assist devices, which aid the heart's function.

At the University of Utah, where the Jarvik-7 was developed, researchers have moved on to a new generation of heart replacement devices — known as the Utah-100, primarily for temporary use — as a bridge to human heart transplants.

Olsen said two models of the Utah-100 are being used in animal experiments. One is air-driven, requiring external heart drive hoses; the other, a hydraulically driven version, is fully contained within the recipient's chest.

The hydraulics model has generated the most enthusiasm and enjoys a five-year, \$5.6-million National Institute of Health grant. Olsen said the NIH has set a goal of having a totally implantable artificial heart by 1995.

The Utah-100 is elliptically shaped and smaller than the Symbion-7. Its design includes an internal battery and a system of electrical induction coils located under and above the skin of the chest.

The coil on the outside could be connected to a variety of power sources, including a battery pack, a transformer tapping into residential power, and possibly a device allowing the patient to draw power from a car battery, perhaps through a cigarette lighter.

The Jarvik heart first was implanted into 61-year-old dentist Barney Clark on Dec. 2, 1982, by William DeVries at the University of Utah. Clark lived for 112 days on the Jarvik-7, and died after suffering a seizure, pneumonia and kidney failure.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute is financing research at Peziz State, the University of Utah, the Texas Heart Institute and the Cleveland Clinic on electric Artificial Hearts.

Gerson Rosenberg, a biomedical engineer who leads Penn State's electric heart development, said the school is in the third year of its 5½-year contract and is testing the device in calves.

Penn State's air-driven device now is the only FDA-approved total heart.

Rosenberg predicted the FDA will consider a totally implantable, electric heart by the late 1990s.

Pierce and Rosenberg said they doubt the decision to pull the Jarvik heart from the marketplace will hinder research because the FDA's comments focused on Symbion Inc. of Tempe, Arizona, which was producing the heart at the Symbion-7.

"It's regrettable that the Symbion company didn't improve that device," Rosenberg said. "You shouldn't judge all artificial hearts by the Jarvik. There was an awful lot learned."

The Jarvik had been criticized because recipients often experienced blood clots and strokes. Some researchers claimed the problems arose because of design problems in the sacs that pump the blood; other criticism centered on the tube running to the air compressor.

The Penn State total heart has been approved only for temporary use. Other companies pro-

### The secret life of Saeed

By Etienne Habiby  
Reader's International

HISTORY, WROTE MARX, in an oft-quoted phrase, first enters on the stage as tragedy, and subsequently appears as farce. Condemned to repetition, so the argument goes. History's stories lose their initial edge so that one can only engage and finally master their brutal meaning by laughing at how little humans seem to learn — or what to learn — about the past's mistakes and the impulse to repeat them.

But Israel's systematic oppression of the Palestinian people, including 40-plus years of illegal land seizures and forced emigrations, systematic beatings and planned murders, apparently defies Marx's prescription and its assumption of normalcy. "We have nothing to laugh about," proclaims a generation of Palestinian resistance literature, "and there is nothing farcical about how our successive generations continue to suffer the fate of their ancestors."

True though this may be, Etienne Habiby implies in his brilliant novel *The Secret Life of Saeed*, that a literature without irony eventually rings hollow; one can only strike a heroic note or sustain a tragic mood for so long before it loses its ability to convey those very horrors it screams of so often.

Written as a farce which fully recognizes how humorous the incongruities of daily life in Palestine can be, Habiby's novel is paradoxically more successful in sketching the horrors of that life than the ostensibly more "tragic" poetry of Mahmoud Darwish and Ghassan Kanafani, two of the most acclaimed Palestinian writers.

Habiby's protagonist Saeed is hence not your typical resistance hero. Rather, as a Palestinian collaborator more concerned with survival than struggle, he bungles his way from episode to episode marked by craven cowardice and a stunning inability to accomplish the tasks outlined for him by his Israeli superiors. Certain that "the moon is closer to us now than are the fig trees of our departed village," he accepts apparent strokes of fate — watching the Israelis murder his father and deport his first and only love in the War of 1948 and, subsequently, watching them kill his wife and radical son in the ominous year preceding the Six Day War.

Neither surprised nor, consequently, particularly incapacitated by such happenings, Saeed is able to train his perceptive glance on the Israeli occupation without letting his emotions get in the way — usually. The exceptions make for a beautifully tight dialogue between Saeed's biting cool wit — almost invariably exercised at the

expense of the Israeli state — and those poignant moments when the horror he experiences and the rage he represses overwhelm his pretense of distant invulnerability. The tension produced by this dialogue, always present beneath the surface, eventually precipitates the long delayed explosion through which Saeed — and by implication the long-quiescent Palestinian people — are forced to wake from the nightmare of history within which they sleep and which "will reach them nevertheless, generation after generation," unless they confront it.

Saeed's epiphany moment takes place in prison, where, in his long-time service to the state notwithstanding, he eventually finds himself thrown for a crime he did not commit. Having been beaten brutally, he awakens to find another tortured prisoner beside him who not only bears his name but who, he discovers, is the son of his first love, long exiled in Lebanon. When the younger Saeed, assuming that his elder counterpart is in jail, like himself, for fighting the Israeli state, praises him, it restores to the older Saeed a dignity he had forgotten — literally and figuratively — a younger self — and allows him to see more clearly than ever before that the Palestinians' condition "contradicted the laws of nature and the rules of logic."

Still, old habits die hard, and while Saeed

## Scientists concerned about frogs, toads dying around world

By Irwin Arieff  
Reader

WASHINGTON — Toads and frogs are dropping like flies.

Zoologists say that a mysterious, precipitous decline in the amphibian population in some parts of the world raises troubling question about the future of humans and the environment.

"What we've got here is a global early warning system and that system is the frog," says zoologist Michael Tyler of Australia's University of Adelaide.

To date, the evidence of a huge decline in the world's amphibian population is largely anecdotal, but zoologists say it should not be ignored.

Amphibians have a perpetually moist skin, and they live both on land and in water, so they are constantly sampling their environment in ways that we don't," says David Wake, an evolutionary biologist at the University of California at Berkeley.

"They are going to sense things before we do, and if they're going to go, there's a message there for us," says Wake, former president of the American Society of Naturalists.

If, after further study, it is determined that the threat to amphibians is only a local problem, or part of some natural cycle, then there is nothing to worry about, says Wake.

However, if instead it is determined that the problem is world-

wide, then something must be done, he said.

"Without question something is going on in some places. What we don't know is if it's general. If it is a global phenomenon, this really is an important discovery," he said.

At Wake's suggestion, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in Washington has decided to sponsor a conference on the phenomenon next month in Irvine, California.

The goal of the meeting, which is to be chaired by Wake, is to determine if there is a problem and, if so, what to do about it, said National Academy staff members Donna Gerard.

A decade ago, when he walked through the meadows of the high

Sierras — a craggy mountain range that runs along the California-Nevada border — "It used to be frog heaven," Wake recalled in a telephone interview. "They were so thick on the ground you would step on them."

"Now they are almost absent from the area," he said.

He found a similar decline in salamanders and toad populations on a recent visit to Costa Rica's Monte Verde rain forest, raising suspicions that the problem was widespread.

It was then that he started a "frog log" in his computer.

When his concerns began to circulate in Zoological circles, phone calls and letters started pouring in.

Areas so far reporting dwind-

ing or disappearing amphibian populations include Denmark, Hungary, southern Ontario in Canada as well as southern California and Australia, Wake said.

Along Australia's east coast alone about 20 different amphibian species have been affected and some have disappeared entirely, Tyler said in a telephone interview.

In Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea "a large number of species have either disappeared totally or have disappeared from a large part of their range," Tyler added.

Other possible explanations include the contamination of wetlands with heavy metal toxins. They speculate the cause could include pesticide residues, acid rain, a gradual disappearance of the ponds amphibians require to breed, and growing salinity in wetlands.

Zoologists say there is no ready explanation for the apparent high mortality among amphibians. They speculate the cause could be a combination of ultraviolet radiation from the sun (causing a thinning of the atmospheric ozone layer), and even a lethal frog virus.

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## Rafsanjani defends use of foreign credits to rebuild Iran economy

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani Friday defended his government's plan to seek \$20 billion in foreign investment and insisted this would not drag Iran into "dependence," Tehran radio reported.

The government's five-year plan to rebuild the country's war-battered economy was approved last week after months of debate.

The controversy focused on Rafsanjani's ambitious plans to attract foreign investment in order to attract foreign investment.

Radical leaders, who dominate the 270-member parliament and oppose any foreign investment, argue this will lead Iran into an endless cycle of debt.

They gave the plan the green light after a stern warning Monday by the country's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to stop frustrating Rafsanjani's efforts to resuscitate the economy.

Rafsanjani, in his Friday sermon in Tehran, rejected any no-

tin that the kind of foreign investment he was seeking would lead Iran into "dependence" on the outside world.

Speaking on the radio, monitored in Nicosia, he argued "this is not dependence. Dependence is created when gas, which is one of our resources, and we can use it to produce hundreds of products, burns on land and sea, and we do not have the means to harness it now or in the next 20 years."

Iran has signed a number of oil and gas-related agreements, primarily with the Soviet Union, which is helping in gas exploration under the Iranian side of the Caspian Sea bed. But these projects are being financed by huge exports of natural gas which will be piped to the Soviet Union starting in March.

Rafsanjani denied that the \$20 million his government is seeking to rebuild oil-related industries battered in the Gulf war, and to construct a number of dams, amounted to a loan.

He said any foreign investment in Iran would be repaid from profits after the projects reached production stage.

Rafsanjani's projected growth rates, although ambitious, will be needed after years in which Iran saw a negative annual rate of growth of minus 2.7 per cent which has been dragging down the country's economy since the 1979 revolution that deposed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and installed an Islamic government.

Rafsanjani acknowledged that in his five-year plan "expenditure is based on earnings, but we have some needs in the petrochemical industry and to build some dams, for which we don't have enough foreign exchange."

Spending in the five-year plan is projected at \$350 billion, of which \$112 billion reportedly will be in foreign exchange.

He said that the plan envisaged an annual overall economic growth rate of eight per cent.

"At this rate, over the five-year

period we will have achieved considerable growth," Rafsanjani said.

He said that according to projections "agriculture will grow at 6.1 per cent, oil at 8.7 per cent, industry at 14.5 per cent, services at 6.7 per cent, mines at 19.5 per cent, utilities at 9.1 per cent and construction at 14.5 per cent."

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The five-year plan was drawn up by the previous government and announced in March. But after his election in July, Rafsanjani announced major changes, adding another \$16 billion in spending.

The plan aims to triple non-oil exports in 1990-95 from \$3 billion a year to \$9 billion. At present



Hashemi Rafsanjani

Iran relies on oil and gas exports for 95 per cent of its foreign exchange.

Rafsanjani has said about \$50 billion are locked up in unfinished projects in Iran, and that many bottlenecks and shortages could be relieved if the projects were completed.

One of the major tasks of the five-year plan is to tackle inflation, officially pegged at 28 per cent but estimated to be much higher.

Rafsanjani says he aims to do this by importing more goods to relieve shortages and by boosting industrial output.

### Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarizes trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Jan. 6, '90 and ending Wednesday Jan. 10, '90. (Figures in Jordanian dinar).

Number of shares Volume of trade Opening price Closing price Per value

#### Banking and financial institutions

Industrial Development Bank	17547	56553	2,700	3,310	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	153636	27387	1,520	1,810	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	650	1365	2,060	2,100	1,000
Housing Bank	650	9960	3,100	3,330	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	3220	500	27,000	27,750	5,000
Cairo Amman Bank	4945	13875	14,200	15,250	5,000
Bank of Jordan	12650	2963282	225,000	229,000	10,000
Arab Bank	26224	74723	2,560	2,670	1,000
Jordan National Bank	2220	7608	3,500	3,450	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Financial Investments	204179	441638	2,030	2,140	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	14160	36139	2,550	2,560	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	2,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Beit Al Mal Savings & Investment for Housing	661	606	1,000	980	1,000

#### Insurance and reinsurance

Middle East Insurance	51750	103571	1,950	2,110	1,000
Jordan French Insurance	13600	33718	2,500	2,520	1,000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	700	1110	1,530	1,600	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	100	173	1,730	1,730	1,000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Arabis Insurance	300	510	1,710	1,700	1,000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	133325	198768	1,350	1,360	1,000
Arab Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000

#### Services and industries

General Investments	250	460	1,750	1,840	1,000
Imraa for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1,000
Darco for Housing and Investment	9909	10284	1,060	1,010	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqra)	504433	457002	0,910	0,900	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	324715	186672	0,610	0,550	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	60400	27268	0,960	0,950	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tecero	—	—	—	—	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	14998	22211	1,480	1,470	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	—	—	—	—	1,000
Iridi District Electricity	77250	121986	1,620	1,560	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	12900	8424	0,660	0,620	1,000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	36450	96852	2,650	2,680	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	17100	66900	4,050	4,000	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	2000	4100	2,000	2,050	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	115501	234108	2,020	1,950	1,000
Jordan Dairy	7447	39080	5,250	5,130	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	187599	538963	2,950	3,020	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	13388	61583	4,600	4,600	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	25418	68488	2,800	2,650	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inta)	2200	16471	6,050	7,500	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	325700	514246	1,860	1,820	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Abdani Industries	3000	10500	3,600	3,450	1,000
Arab Aluminum Manufacturing	62278	179320	2,860	2,860	1,000
Jordan Worsted Mills	6679	22018	3,300	3,300	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	1150	39032	3,640	3,450	1,000
Chemical Industries	14926	290423	1,970	1,900	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	13294	56771	4,150	4,380	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	1500	4319	2,930	2,860	1,000
National Steel Industries	17900	95499	5,350	5,350	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	1331	10915	8,240	8,200	1,000
Jordan Lime at Brick	9100	9702	1,100	1,050	1,000
National Industries	17900	10579	0,690	0,570	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	738459	622930	0,830	0,870	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	1700	6284	3,700	3,670	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	11270	9843	0,790	0,900	1,000
Jordan Pipe Manufacturing	5000	17349	3,520	3,390	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	350	981	2,560	2,820	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	2964	24136	7,940	8,450	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	51673	171434	3,320	3,360	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Hirsch Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orbita Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	11450	18729	1,700	1,530	1,000
Jordan Tanning	1668	392			

## Liverpool draws, surrenders two-point lead

LONDON (RE) — Liverpool had their lead at the top of the English first division narrowed to just one point on Saturday as struggling Luton held them to a 2-2 draw at Ashton after threatening one of the upssets of the season.

Two goals within two minutes from Kingsley Black and Debbie Kerr Nogas put Luton 2-1 up and just 16 minutes away from their first ever win at Liverpool and their first away triumph for over a year.

But Scottish international Steve Nicol equalised in the 76th minute to deny Luton's new manager Jim Ryan a remarkable result in his first match in charge.

Aston Villa moved level on 43 points with Liverpool following a 2-0 win at bottom club Charlton — their 12th victory in 15 league games. Villa also have a game in hand over the leaders.

But Arsenal and Southampton, third and fourth respectively, lost

ground. Arsenal crushed 1-0 at London neighbours Wimbledon in a do-or-die contest in which defender Nigel Winterburn was carried off on a stretcher late in the second half.

Newcomer Michael Bennett

scored the goal minutes from time to leave the champions four points behind the leading pair.

Southampton, held to a 2-2 draw at home by improving Everton, remain eight points adrift of the leaders.

Veteran defender Russell Osman

scored twice as Southampton's just against Everton

— they have not beaten the Liverpool side in 12 meetings over the last six years.

Unchanged for the sixth consecutive match and beaten only once in their last 10 outings, Southampton were expected to prove too sharp for their mid-table visitors.

They had scored more goals in

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JANUARY 14, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation  
GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day and evening to state your ideas and points of view to others and especially those that have considerable scope to them for you can now make headway and progress.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Take your family to interesting outside places of recreation. You can happily be engaged with attachment in joint projects.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) Some thoughtful presents now to members of your family. Several persons you both like will entertain you and your loved one.

GEMINI: (May 19 to June 21) You can learn a great deal by inviting intelligent persons into your home. Get your surroundings more as your attachment would like them to be.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Jaunt to see relatives and friends, as this will be productive of beneficial results. Being too direct with your attachment could cause problems.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A good day to go Dutch treat with as many friends as possible. You want to get away for a change from your home, so do so now.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) You can now get the desired help you've been striving for from your family. Carry through with an initiated hobby at your residence.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 21) Don't let an overly anxious

position of aces and kings, so he opened one club and then jumped to two no trump. North did not think the hand would stretch to slam, and settled for the no-trump game. Little did he realize even that might be too high!

Declarer covered West's lead of the nine of spades with the jack, and East started a fine defense by withholding the king. After crossing to the king of clubs, declarer ran the nine of diamonds. East continued the good work by holding up the king of diamonds. When declarer repeated the finesse, East won and reverted to a club. Declarer found he had no way to reach all those good diamonds in dummy, and ended up down two tricks.

The contract was lost by hasty play to the first trick. Observe the difference if declarer simply plays low from dummy and wins in hand with the ace. Now, holding up the king of diamonds won't help. Declarer can force an entry to dummy by leading to the table's queen-jack of spades. As a result, the defenders collect only one spade and one diamond, and declarer rounds home with two overtricks. Making the right play at trick one swings four tricks!

There is a disease that strikes most bridge players at regular intervals. It is an affliction of flying fingers. Instead of thinking about a play, reflex takes over and a card hits the table in no time flat. This malady is usually followed by a severe case of constipation.

Although North-South were using a 16-16 point no trump range, South judged the hand to be stronger than its count because of the

position of aces and kings, so he opened one club and then jumped to two no trump. North did not think the hand would stretch to slam, and settled for the no-trump game. Little did he realize even that might be too high!

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Although North-South were using a 16-16 point no trump range, South judged the hand to be stronger than its count because of the

their last three games than Everton had in their previous 13 and when Osman opened the scoring with a left foot drive in the 14th minute the match looked set to go to form.

But former Manchester United midfielder Norman Whiteside struck a minute either side of halftime to put the visitors ahead and Osman was left to earn a point for his side with his second goal 16 minutes from time.

When England winger John Barnes shot Liverpool ahead against Luton after 32 minutes,

Ryan's pre-match promise that his side would not be overawed at Anfield and would entertain began to look a little empty.

But Luton's defence, which had conceded 30 goals in their previous 12 games, worked hard throughout to contain Barnes and Welsh marksman Ian Rush and Black's 72nd minute equaliser clearly boosted his team mates.

Nolan's shock goal two minutes later put Luton in sight of their first win since November.

But Nicoi replied with his fifth of the season to stretch his side's

unbeaten run to 10 games.

## U.A.E. sacks Brazilian coach, hires Pole

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Mario Zagalo, the Brazilian coach who steered the United Arab Emirates' soccer squad to their first World Cup finals, was abruptly sacked by the Gulf state's football association Saturday, officials reported.

Zagalo, 53, who recently returned from a Christmas vacation in Brazil, was officially informed of the decision at a meeting with the association.

Zagalo, whose two-year contract was scheduled to expire in June, will be replaced by Ber-

nard Blaauw, Poland's former assistant national coach who currently is head coach with the Sharjah club in the UAE first division.

"This is a surprise to me,

Naturally I'm upset about it," Zagalo told the Associated Press after the meeting.

"I was officially informed of this sudden decision this morning at a meeting with the football association, although I'd read about it in today's papers. It was a shock," he said.

Zagalo was hailed as a hero in

the Emirates only a few months ago after the national team, under his tutelage, won through with payments received after guiding the national team to second place in the Asian group final qualifying stage in Singapore, clinching its place in the World Cup finals.

There were also unconfirmed reports that Zagalo was unhappy with payments received after guiding the national team to second place in the Asian group final qualifying stage in Singapore, clinching its place in the World Cup finals.

The U.A.E. is grouped with West Germany, Yugoslavia and Colombia in Group D in the finals that start in June.

The news media in Dubai, the bustling port city where Zagalo lives, had speculated about his dismissal earlier in the day.

Blaauw told reporters Friday night, when speculation that Zagalo was on the way out began, that he had not been officially informed of any decision.

Zagalo declined to give details of his meeting with UAEFA. But he said he will leave in about two weeks after settling matters related to his contract and clearing up his personal affairs.

### New South Wales Open:

## Noah, Steeb in final

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Re-

vitalised Yannick Noah combined subtlety and power Saturday to defeat defending champion Aaron Krickstein of the United States and advance to the final of the \$400,000 New South Wales Open tennis championship.

The flamboyant Frenchman, seeded eighth, beat third seeded Krickstein 6-4, 7-5 in an engrossing 93-minute struggle at White City.

He will meet West German left-hander Carl-Uwe Steeb in Sunday's final following seventh-seeded Steeb's impressive 6-3, 6-2 semifinal victory over former world number one Mats Wilander of Sweden.

Steeb, who stunned reigning U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion Boris Becker in the quarterfinals, was too consistent from the baseline for fifth seeded Wilander.

He raced to a 3-0 lead in the first set and Wilander never really got into the match.

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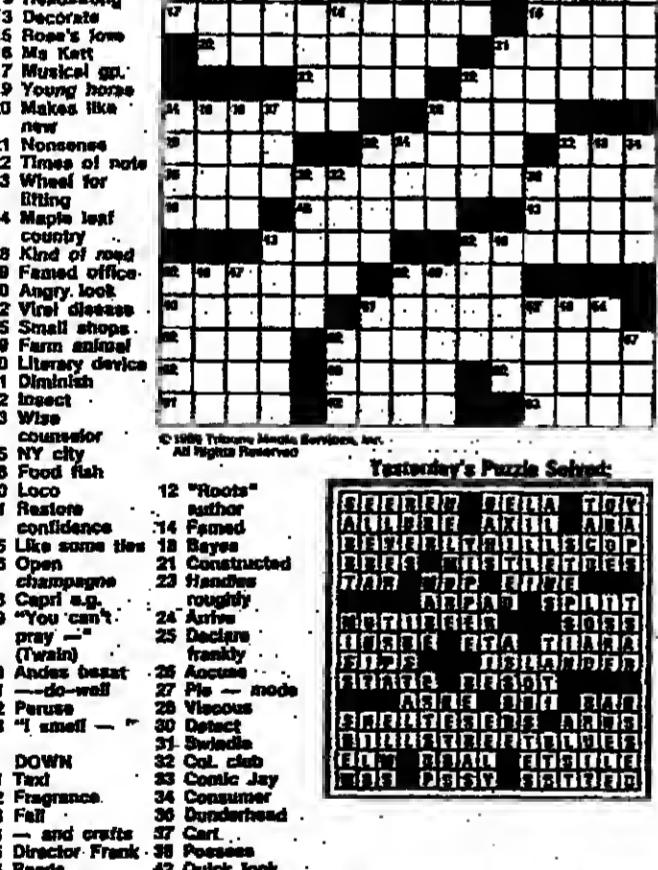
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### THE Daily Crossword

by Sidney L. Robbins





Lithuanians protest in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, on the eve of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit.

## Prosecution puts off plan to shift Noriega to new cell

MIAMI (Agencies) — Prosecutors agreed Friday during closed-door court hearing to hold off on plans to move deposed Panamanian强人Mamuel Antonio Noriega from his courthouse jail cell, a U.S. police official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Noriega was not expected to be transferred "anytime in the immediate future" after his lawyers objected to the government's bid to move him.

The plan had called for Noriega to be taken almost immediately to a more secure location. Government officials, concerned his life could be threatened by Colombian cocaine smugglers who believe he may inform on them, contend the courthouse cell is not secure enough.

Noriega's lawyers have consistently said they would strongly oppose any effort to move him, claiming they want him nearby so they can help prepare his defense against a 1988 drug indictment.

In his first public statement on the matter, U.S. District Judge William Hoeveler told reporters Noriega's trial could begin in as little as seven or eight months.

Noriega, once Panama's "maximum leader," has been held in a cramped underground cell called the "submarine" since his arrival in Miami last Thursday after surrendering to U.S. troops in Panama. His capture was one of the main objectives of the U.S. invasion launched Dec. 20.

U.S. authorities may eventually renew their effort to move Noriega and reserve the right to transfer him if his security is threatened.

Noriega is awaiting trial on a 1988 indictment that charges him with shielding major Colombian cocaine traffickers, helping them ship drugs to the United States and pocketing \$4.6 million in bribes.

A U.S. television network reported Friday that Noriega may have access to millions of dollars even as trials for drug offenses in the United States.

NBC news said Noriega has

access to what could be millions of dollars in an unfrozen bank account at the Deutsche Sudamerikanische bank in Hamburg, West Germany.

While it quoted bank officials as saying that the bank had no account in Noriega's name, NBC said U.S. records show the former general has a numbered account at the German bank.

NBC also said that up to \$1 million of the funds in the account could have been deposited by the U.S. military several years ago, when Noriega served as an informant for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Several banks in France and Switzerland holding as much as \$25 million for Noriega have already frozen his accounts, NBC said.

Noriega's personal fortune has been estimated at more than \$200 million, NBC said.

A top congress man said Friday that the U.S. invasion of Panama was a military success, "but this was partly due to luck the United States could not depend on in any similar operation in the future."

House of Representatives Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin said U.S. forces were lucky that Panamanian soldiers did not take Americans in Panama hostage and threatened to kill one an hour.

He said the U.S. invasion force was also lucky that Noriega chose not to fight.

"Noriega folded," the Wisconsin Democrat said at a press conference.

He said there was evidence that Noriega's Panama Defense Force soldiers hid out after the invasion, awaiting Noriega's orders on where and how it fight, but the orders never came.

When it became clear Noriega would issue no order to fight, Aspin said, the Panamanian soldiers didn't take hostages. Why didn't they? That is a mystery to me."

He said some of the Panamanian soldiers had been involved in brutal tortures in the past, so he was surprised none of them had

Many of the detainees are being held without formal charges, U.S. sources said, while prosecutors study each case.

U.S. sources said Friday that almost all of Noriega's top officers were either in detention or hiding in foreign embassies in Panama City.

Relations between Hong Kong and the mainland have sunk to their lowest level since the ultra-leftist cultural revolution of the 1960s. A series of disagreements between London and Beijing and pro-democracy agitation in Hong Kong have further worsened ties.

To complicate the issue, many in Hong Kong feel Britain has abandoned the colony and is kowtowing to the Beijing government. Protests are expected during Hurd's visit and security will be tight.

His visit, his first to Hong Kong as foreign secretary, follows unproductive meetings between Hong Kong's governor, Sir David Wilson, and Chinese leaders in Beijing. Wilson returned Friday and will confer with Hurd.

The governor had sharp exchanges with several Chinese leaders over the pace of democratic change in Hong Kong. Wilson called the talks "frank," and Hurd described them as "workman-like," diplomatic buzzwords for unsuccessful.

They were charged with conspiracy, possession of a destructive device, violations of arms export regulations and the U.S. neutrality law. If convicted, they could each face up to 25 years in prison and \$750,000 in fines.

The four were to appear before a U.S. magistrate in West Palm Beach Tuesday afternoon.

In November 1986, five men were given prison sentences ranging from six to 18 months in Boston in a plot to buy arms, including a surface-to-air missile for the IRA.

The men were arrested in May 1986 when they attempted to buy the missile, 100 M-16 automatic rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition from undercover FBI agents.

"I'm just a poor Irishman here on holiday and was trapped by certain people," he said. "Certain people offered to sell me a piece of equipment for the Irish

## Gorbachev warns Lithuanians against 'national wilderness'

VILNIUS (R) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev made an impassioned appeal to Lithuanians Saturday to ease back on their drive for total independence, telling them they were rushing towards a "nationalist wilderness."

"We need to think it over a thousand times before we embark on an independent drift with no compass, no map and no fuel," he told the Baltic republic's top Communists, themselves split between separatists and Moscow loyalists.

But there seemed little doubt that despite the combination of promise, cajoling and warnings of possible disaster he has used during three days in Lithuania, the vast majority of local people remained determined to push for secession.

The mood was summed up for Gorbachev at the meeting in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, by a Russian, Vasily Yemelyanov, editor-in-chief of the republic's

Russian-language party newspaper *Sovietkaya Lita*.

"The majority of the population of Lithuania is ready to sacrifice material well-being for the sake of the possibility of spiritual self-determination and political freedom," he told the Kremlin chief.

Algirdas Brazauskas, "genuine giant" leader of the Lithuanian Communist Party, declared that despite Gorbachev's reform drive the Soviet party had changed little. "Time waits for no one, as life changes almost daily in our country," he said.

Under his leadership the Lithuanian party has broken with Moscow. A party congress approved by an overwhelming majority last month to declare the party a totally independent body.

Gorbachev ended his three-day visit to the once-independent republic with joint talks with both the breakaway party, whose programme includes a "sovereign" Lithuania, and with

a loyalist rump. The meeting, broadcast live on Lithuanian television, followed a cool response from powerful separatist forces. They have spurned Gorbachev's offer of a proposed law spelling out terms for orderly secession as "propaganda" and "a cheap lie."

Gorbachev, who is both chief of state and head of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), fared little better at the hands of his Lithuanian comrades.

Sitting in a semi-circle facing a hall of several hundred people, Gorbachev heard his party dismissed as too hidebound to compete — for votes or influence — in the whirlwind of modern Lithuanian politics.

Yemelyanov said Lithuanian communists had been forced into the split by Moscow's inability or unwillingness to accept rapid change.

"Not only was Stalinism discredited but the people completely

lost faith in the CPSU. It is a pity that our party has split but we simply could wait no longer," said Yemelyanov.

Reflecting the calm but determined mood of the gathering, he said there could be no going back on last month's decision.

"I believe annulling the decision would be the death of the Communist Party of Lithuania," Yemelyanov told Gorbachev, who took copious notes and occasionally gestured in response.

"Realities here are such that people have said, 'enough. We want to be Europeans.'

The Lithuanians' unprecedented break with Moscow, approved last month by an overwhelming majority of party leaders, was in response to fears of being swamped in upcoming elections by the powerful, pro-independence Sajudis movement.

And Yemelyanov conceded the party had lost its place as the leading light in Lithuanian society.

## COLUMN

### Botticelli masterpiece back on show

FLORENCE, Italy (R) — "The Coronation of the Virgin," a masterpiece by the 15th century Italian artist Botticelli, has gone back on show in Florence 50 years after it was removed for restoration. The work, painted by Botticelli between 1488 and 1490, was re-exhibited Thursday for the first time since 1940 in a chapel of the city's Uffizi museum. Lengthy restoration was needed after the surface of plaster and glue on which Botticelli painted started to disintegrate, restorers said.

### Main travels across world to see cousin dead

WELLINGTON (R) — Albin Birch left London on the trip of a lifetime to find a New Zealand cousin he had not seen for 30 years — but instead found a month-old corpse. Albin's 82-year-old cousin Bennett Birch lived as a recluse 19,000 kilometres away in New Zealand's subtropical far north. But Albin discovered him dead when he arrived at his home Thursday in the remote settlement of Takehe.

### Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	WEATHER
AMSTERDAM	01	34	05 41 Cloudy
ATHENS	03	37	13 55 Clear
BAHRAIN	13	53	17 65 Cloudy
BANGKOK	27	33	93 Clear
CARDOZO	22	72	35 35 Cloudy
CHIANGMAI	04	23	33 Clear
COPENHAGEN	04	30	03 49 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	02	45	17 63 Cloudy
GENEVA	02	29	00 32 Clear
HONG KONG	17	63	18 64 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	01	30	09 48 Clear
LONDON	04	36	08 46 Clear
LOS ANGELES	13	52	20 60 Cloudy
MADRID	00	32	12 54 Clear
MECCA	18	64	29 82 Cloudy
MONTRÉAL	01	30	01 30 Cloudy
MOSCOW	01	45	26 75 Clear
NEW DELHI	01	33	05 41 Clear
PARIS	00	32	04 39 Clear
ROME	01	30	09 48 Clear
SYDNEY	21	70	27 81 Cloudy
TOKYO	05	41	10 50 Cloudy
VIENNA	00	30	00 40 X X

X = indicates missing information

## Hurd pledges to push for Hong Kong democracy

HONG KONG (AP) — British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Saturday that a timetable for direct elections in Hong Kong would be established in the next few weeks, despite strained ties with China.

Arriving in Hong Kong, Hurd also said the colony would continue its forced repatriation of Vietnamese boat people even though the move has prompted widespread international condemnation.

Hurd said he expected ground would be set soon for elections in Hong Kong next year. China, which takes over the colony in 1997, has called efforts to speed up the democratisation of the territory a plot "to bring the Chinese government to its knees."

Hurd said that while Britain would consider Beijing's views, it would decide by itself how to proceed with the voting.

"We are not going to sit back as the British government passively and let the clock tick on," he told reporters at Hong Kong's international airport.

"Cool and considered" was how he described the way decisions will be made that will critically affect the lives of Hong Kong's 5.7 million people.

Communist China takes over Hong Kong in 1997 and has promised to preserve Hong Kong's free-wheeling economic and social system for at least 50 years. But confidence in China's promise evaporated after the bloody crackdown June 3-4 on the movement for democracy in Beijing.

Relations between Hong Kong and the mainland have sunk to their lowest level since the ultra-leftist cultural revolution of the 1960s. A series of disagreements between London and Beijing and pro-democracy agitation in Hong Kong have further worsened ties.

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## Senior Albanian official rejects reports of unrest

VIENNA (Agencies) — A leading member of the Albanian Communist Party has dismissed as Yugoslav-inspired slanders reports of a crackdown in his country to deter unrest.

Western and East Bloc diplomats in the capital Tirana said that life there appeared calm and normal with no signs of increased security measures.

Foto Cami, secretary of the Albanian party's central committee, told Tirana Radio and television Friday that Serbian nationalists in Yugoslavia were spreading the rumour to distract world attention from the plight of ethnic Albanians there.

"How do I assess it, I cannot find a better word than slanders," Foto told an interview according to the official Albanian ATA news agency monitored in Vienna.

"The aim is clear. They wish that what has occurred in the countries of the East happen in Albania too," he said referring to the wave of popular unrest that has broken the Communist grip

on power in Eastern Europe. He said such rumours would only increase the resolve of the Albanian people: "They urge us to raise higher the vigilance to safeguard our freedom, independence and sovereignty."

Reports from Belgrade and Athens have spoken of a harsh crackdown to deter unrest in Albania, the last outpost of Stalinist communism in Europe.

The Belgrade newspaper Politika reported Thursday that a state of emergency had been declared in the northern town of Shkoder and security had been stepped up around official residences in Tirana.

The Yugoslav national news agency Tanjug said Friday Albania had imposed security measures it said amounted to a state of emergency. But in later reports it quoted travellers from Albania as saying there were no visible signs of any emergency.

"One diplomat, contacted in Tirana by telephone from Vienna, said a Western ambassador had visited Shkoder and found

## THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Klemm

SUMMING UP														





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